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10/663,509

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Ronald P. Doyle

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SUITE 3020

BOCA RATON, FL 33487

EXAMINER

ANTONIENKO, DEBRA L

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/663,509	Applicant(s) DOYLE ET AL.	
	Examiner DEBRA ANTONIENKO	Art Unit 3689	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,9, and 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,9, and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a Final Office Action in response to communications received June 29, 2008, wherein:

Claims 2-8, 10-12, and 14-16 have been cancelled;

Claim 1 has been amended; and

Claims 1, 9, and 13 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 9, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pitroda, U.S. Patent Number 5,884,271 (hereinafter referred to as Pitroda).

Examiner's Note: The Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior art of record within the body of this action for the convenience of the Applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply. Applicant, in preparing the response, should consider fully the entire reference as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Regarding Claim 1, Pitroda teaches a receipt management article of manufacture comprising: a computer storage medium configured to store receipt data from multiple disparate vendors (column 10, lines 4-32); communications logic for establishing a

Art Unit: 3689

communicative link between the system and receipt data processing logic disposed within individual ones of said multiple disparate vendors (column 10, lines 26-39); a receipt management processor programmed to moderate access to said store receipt data in said storage medium to an individual one of said multiple disparate vendors, wherein said storage medium further comprises a configuration for indexing said store receipt data according to at least one of a vendor identifier and a transaction identifier (column 12, lines 21-32 and lines 60-65; Figures 2 and 7); security and authentication logic programmed to secure access to said receipt data by said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors through at least one of encryption, password protection and certificate validation and authentication (column 13, lines 1-8 and line 66 – column 14, line 18; Figures 7, 10, and 11).

Claims 2-8 (Cancelled).

Regarding Claim 9, Pitroda further teaches a method for electronic receipt management comprising the steps of: establishing a communicative link between a data store of electronic receipts from multiple disparate vendors, and an individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 10, lines 26-39; column 15, lines 22-25; Figures 2 and 25); authenticating said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 7, lines 30-35); locating a specific electronic receipt stored within said data store which corresponds to an identifier provided by said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 12, lines 21-32 and lines 60-67; Figure 2); and, transmitting said

Art Unit: 3689

located specific electronic receipt to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors over said established communicative link, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of inserting a portable storage medium containing said data store into a reader coupled to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 13, lines 1-8; Figure 7).

Claims 10-12 (Cancelled).

Regarding Claim 13, Pitroda further teaches a computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-readable instructions for electronic receipt management, the computer-readable instructions for causing a computer system to perform the steps of: establishing a communicative link between a data store of electronic receipts from multiple disparate vendors, and an individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 10, lines 26-39; column 15, lines 22-25; Figures 2 and 25); authenticating said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 7, lines 30-35); locating a specific electronic receipt stored within said data store which corresponds to an identifier provided by said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 12, lines 21-32 and lines 60-67; Figure 2); and, transmitting said located specific electronic receipt to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors over said established communicative link, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of inserting a portable storage medium containing said data store into a reader coupled to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors (column 13, lines 1-8; Figure 7).

Claims 14-16 (Cancelled).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments, filed June 29, 2008, see page 4, lines 19-23, with respect to Claim 1 and the term "article of manufacture" have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph has been withdrawn.

5. Applicant's arguments filed June 29, 2008 with respect to 35 U.S.C. 102 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding Claims 1, 9, and 13, Applicant argues that Pitroda does not teach *(i) locating a specific electronic receipt stored within the data store which corresponds to an identifier provided by the individual one of the multiple disparate vendors*. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Pitroda teaches storing all transaction receipts in electronic form and a database management system. Pitroda further teaches a POS (point of sale, i.e. vendor) database includes ID numbers, service numbers, or sales identifications (column 12, lines 21-32 and lines 60-67; Figure 2). A database by definition is a collection of data organized in such a way that facilitates access or retrieval of the data, among other things. Locating a specific piece of information in a database is inherent.

Art Unit: 3689

Therefore, Examiner maintains that Pitroda does anticipate this limitation.

Applicant argues that Pitroda does not teach *(ii) transmitting the located specific electronic receipt to the individual one of the multiple disparate vendors over the established communicative link*. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Pitroda teaches that after CIU software recognizes the UET card contact, the CIU prepares itself *to read information* from the UET card (column 13, lines 1-8; Figure 7). Figure 7 depicts the software for the CIU which explicitly teaches that the information read from the card has been transmitted from I/O drivers (71) to the UET card management (75) *CARD INFO. READ*. Therefore, Examiner maintains that Pitroda does anticipate this limitation.

Applicant argues that Pitroda fails to teach *that the "individual one of the multiple disparate vendors" is authenticated*. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Pitroda teaches *a previously authorized service institution* (column 7, lines 30-35). The step of authorizing a service institution or vendor or other business entity has been accomplished. The type of business entity authorized or authenticated does not alter the step of authenticating or the structure of the system. Therefore, such differences do not effectively serve to patentably distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art. Examiner maintains that Pitroda does anticipate this limitation.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DEBRA ANTONIENKO whose telephone number is (571)270-3601. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Janice Mooneyham can be reached on 571-272-6805. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3689

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DA

/Janice A. Mooneyham/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3689